

**REMARKS**

Claims 9-12, 15, 16, 18, 19 and 21-26 are pending. Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

**Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103**

Claims 9-12, 15, 16, 18, 19 and 21-26 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,404,369 by Sheen ("Sheen") and U.S. Patent No. 6,271,781 by Pellon ("Pellon"). Insofar as they may be applied against the claims, these rejections have been overcome because neither Sheen, Pellon, nor any other reference of record even remotely describe the recitation of the estimator (which is supported, for example, by FIG. 12) that has been added to Claims 9, 15, 16, 18, and 21. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejections of Claims 9-12, 15, 16, 18, 19 and 21-26 be withdrawn and that Claims 9-12, 15, 16, 18, 19 and 21-26 be allowed.

**Conclusion**

Applicants respectfully requests full allowance of Claims 9-12, 15, 16, 18, 19 and 21-26.

Applicants do not believe that any fees are due; however, in the event that any fees are due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any required fees due (other than issue fees), and to credit any overpayment made, in connection with the filing of this paper to Deposit Account 20-0668 of Texas Instruments Incorporated.

Should the Examiner require any further clarification to place this application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

/John J. Patti/

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John J. Patti  
Reg. No. 57,191  
Texas Instruments Incorporated  
P.O. Box 655474, M/S 3999  
Dallas, Texas 75265  
Phone: (972)917-4144